1	2
6.	ROB cum Bypass near Boriguma on NH-43
7.	ROB cum Bypass near Jeypore on NH-43
8.	ROB cum Bypass near Nawarangpur on NH-201
9.	ROB cum Bypass near Deogarh on NH-6
10.	ROB cum Bypass near Hinjilikatu on NH-217
11.	ROB cum Bypass near Keonjhar on NH-6

Closure of work at Ranchi- Vijayawada NH

†2283. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the closure of work at Ranchi-Vijayawada National Highway is being considered;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) if not, the status of work and time by when it will be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Ranchi-Vijayawada route comprises of some sections of National Highways and State Roads. On going improvement works on National Highways and State Roads on this route are targeted for completion by 2011-12. The details of on-going works on this route is as under:—

Sl. No.	State	National Highway/ State Roads	No. of works	Length in km
1.	Jharkhand	National Highway	2	24
		State Roads	2	54
2.	Orissa	National Highway	8	54
		State Roads	20	249
3.	Andhra Pradesh	National Highways	4	52
		Total	36	433

Delay in awarding contracts for 12000 kms highways

2284. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a delay in awarding contracts for 12,000 kms highways beyond the deadline set earlier for March, 2010;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether Government has accepted the recommendations of BK Chaturvedi Committee on exit clause and conflict of interest clauses, including increasing the cap to 25 per cent; and

(c) whether Government has now set a target of building 7000 kms highways in year @ 20 km a day?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) The Government has finalized Work Plan for award of 122 projects with a total length of 11,947 km. All projects are targeted for award in 2009-10.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir.

Few bids for highway projects

2285. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) awarded only 8 out of 60 road projects floated as majority of the projects did not received any bids in 2008-09;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these eight projects including the Eastern Peripheral Expressway had received only one bid after many extensions of deadline;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether there is any proposal to form an Empowered Group of Ministers to fast track highway projects to resolve issues related to bidding process; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) and (b) Out of 60 projects, bids were received for 22 projects and 7 projects were awarded during 2008-09. In addition, one project of Badarpur elevated highway was also awarded during 2008-09. The details of the projects awarded are given in Statement (*See* below).

(c) and (d) Two or more bids were received for all the awarded 8 projects. Only one bid was received for Eastern Peripheral Expressway which has been cancelled.

(e) and (f) The Government has constituted an Empowered Group of Ministers (EGoM) comprising Finance Minister, Minister of Road Transport and Highways and Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission to consider the financing plan for NHDP for 2010-11 onwards including changes to the work plan as may become necessary. The EGoM will also consider and take decision on all issues where there is no unanimity in committee at the level of officers and which do not require approval of the Cabinet/Cabinet Committee on Infrastructure (CCI).